Review of poverty alleviation programmes

1991. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the implementation of various Rural Development Programmes;

(b) if so, the details of the review made and facts revealed therefrom;

(c) whether there is a need to review the poverty alleviation schemes; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Rural Development has established a comprehensive system for review and monitoring of Rural Development Programmes, including poverty alleviation programmes. The programmes are being reviewed at the Central level by the Performance Review Committee. Two meetings of this Committee have so far been held. These reviews revealed that the progress of implementation of the Schemes vary from State to State and the progress varies under different programmes even within a State. There is also a need for continuous review of the programmes at periodic intervals in order to ensure that the benefits of the programmes reach the target groups and also to make mid-course corrections, if any, needed. Therefore, the Review mechanism has been institutionalised.

SCs/STs below poverty-line

1992. SHRI GANDHI AZAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that majority of the persons belonging to the SCs/STs are living below the poverty-line even now;

(b) if so, the percentage of persons belonging to the SCs/STs who are living below the poverty-line as of now as compared to the total population of the country living below poverty-line; and

(c) the action initiated by Government to bring the persons belonging to the SCs/STs above the poverty-line?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) and (b) As per the latest estimates of poverty, obtained by the Planning Commission, 48.11% of the

Scheduled Castes and 51.94% of the Scheduled Tribes population lived below the poverty line in rural areas in 1993-94. In urban areas, the percentage of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population living below the poverty line has been estimated at 49.48% and 41.14% respectively in that year. Among the entire population, the percentage of people living below the poverty line is estimated at 37.27% in rural areas and 32.36% in urban areas in 1993-94.

(c) Various poverty alleviation programmes are being implemented under Tribal Sub-Plan and Special Component Plan strategy. In addition, various Central and Centrally sponsored programmes are also being implemented by the States and UTs, besides State sector programmes to improve the standard of living of SCs/STs living below poverty line.

Workshop on 'Jal Manthan' organised in Delhi

1993. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a workshop on 'Jal Manthan' to solve the drinking water problem in rural areas was organised in Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details of the participants;

(c) whether any steps have been chalked out to bring reforms in the rural projects; and

(d) if so, the details and achievements thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) A one-day workshop on implementation of reform projects in rural drinking water supply sector was organised in New Delhi on 10.7.2000.

(b) Officers of the State Government dealing with Rural Water Supply from 21 States out of 22 States where sector reform projects are being implemented, representatives of external support agencies, representative of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and Officers of the Department of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India participated in the workshop.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has introduced reforms in the Rural Water Supply sector with a view to institutionalise community participation in the implementation, operation and maintenance of rural water supply schemes and 20% of the annual